

# 2010 California Focus



**June 25 - 29, 2010**



*(Are you interested in an internship opportunity with California Focus?? See the bottom of this page)*

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California Focus is a unique 4-H citizenship educational experience that combines hands-on participation in workshops, debates, and simulations with outstanding speakers and visits to historical, cultural, and governmental sites. California's capital city, Sacramento, becomes a "living classroom" for this five-day, action packed adventure that strengthens leadership skills.

## Program Objectives:

Witness California's government in action by participating in the legislative, political, and judicial processes.

- Study California geography, history, and politics.
- Practice leadership skills and learn how to communicate with government officials. Learn to take an active role in government.
- Develop a personal or group plan of action to effect positive change in delegates' community.
- Meet and share ideas with young people from diverse areas and backgrounds.



You will register to vote, conduct a political campaign, elect constitutional officers of your district, and enact legislation with the goal of securing the governor's

The Capitol will allow delegates to meet face-to-face with their Senators and Assembly Members to discuss current issues and advocate for issues critical to them and their fellow constituents. An overview of the executive branch is presented by the governor's staff. The clerk of the 3rd Court of Appeal guides delegates through the judicial process while delegates sit in the chambers of the state supreme court.

**Tours** are provided of historical, economic, political, and cultural significance to such locales as Old Sacramento, the Governor's Mansion, The California Museum, Sutter's Fort, the Discovery Museum, the Railroad Museum, and the Crocker Art Museum.

The delegation conducts a primary and general election, nominating their constitutional officers through a two party system, and running a campaign in hopes of elected their slate of officers.

Each year a new study topic is introduced at conference giving delegates an opportunity to research a current issue. Science and Society was the 2009 study focus. Currently the United States is experiencing a shortage of trained scientists. With the 4-H SET (Science, Engineering, and Technology) initiative in place, our delegates were involved with a group of scientists from multiply disciplines and had an opportunity to think how science affects our lives and public policy. Delegates were also given an opportunity to give public testimony at a mock sub-committee hearing in the Capitol on a bill rationing electricity in homes.

In addition in 2009, delegates participated in a Sock Hop. Each delegate brought socks and donated them to the Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services Program. The delegates learned first-hand from the non-profit's Director of Communications and Development about the many programs offered to people who need a helping hand. They were encouraged to locate resources in their own communities that serve a similar mission.

And of course, the action-packed schedule also includes time for fun and talking with and making new friends through organized recreational activities.

*Delegates extend their learning* as they prepare and present a "Plan of Action" to implement backhome in their respective communities. Outstanding plans are showcased at the conference and an award is given each year for the one that is judged the most effective.

California Focus can be the beginning of a life of public participation that leaves you with a strong determination to become involved with the political process. Don't miss being a part of this stimulating five-day learning adventure in Sacramento with its opportunities to gain new ideas, experiences, and perspectives.



## **Sponsorship Opportunity ([Word](#)) ([PDF](#)) Information Booklet 2009 ([PDF](#))**



**2009  
CitizenshipFocus  
Fact Sheet ([PDF](#))  
4-H Member Registration Form ([PDF](#))  
Adult Leader Registration Form ([PDF](#))  
Financial Aid Application ([Word](#))  
California Focus Young Civic Leader**

**Award Application ([PDF](#))  
Orientation Schedule ([PDF](#))**

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# California Focus Plan of Action Contract ([Word](#)) California Focus Final Report Format ([Word](#)) ([PDF](#))

## California Focus Publicity Packet

- Publicity Guidelines ([PDF](#))
- News Release ([Word](#)) ([PDF](#))
- Questions and Answers from Cal Focus ([Word](#)) ([PDF](#))
- Sample Press Release ([Word](#)) ([PDF](#))
- The Backgrounder ([Word](#)) ([PDF](#))
- Evaluation Form ([Word](#)) ([PDF](#))

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## Internship Opportunity - California Focus District Leader

If you are a young adult (must have completed high school by June 2009) take a look at the 4-H California Focus District Leader Internship. Come and join a staff of 8 in planning and delivering a top-notch education program centered on California's government and the political process. Attend trainings in the spring to prepare you to conduct specific sessions/workshops, narrate field tours, and assist in the management of the events and activities during California Focus. Assume a leadership role for a group of 20-25 high school students and assist participants in the development of life skills that will help them carryout their Back Home Plan of Action. Serve as a positive role model while you work with a great group of high school students and their chaperones.

- District Leader Flyer ([PDF](#))
- District Leader Information ([Word](#))
- District Leader Application ([Word](#)) - *Due January 5, 2010.*

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